BRITISH COLUMBIA
The Best Place on Earth

BCStats

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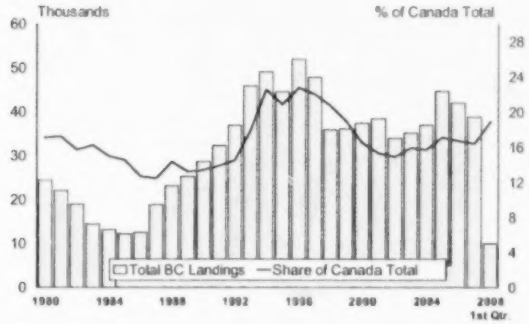
Issue: 08-1

Immigration Highlights ◆ First Quarter 2008

B.C. immigrant landings in the first quarter of 2008 increased when compared to same period last year ...

Data from Statistics Canada shows that a total of 10,058 immigrants arrived in British Columbia during the first quarter of 2008. This represents an increase of 26.1 per cent from the 7,977 immigrants landed in B.C. during the first quarter of 2007. B.C.'s share of immigrants to Canada also increased during this period. During the first quarter of 2008, B.C. received 18.9 per cent of all arrivals to Canada, higher than the 16.7 per cent B.C. attracted in the same period last year.

B.C. Immigration and Share of Canada Total



Source: Statistics Canada

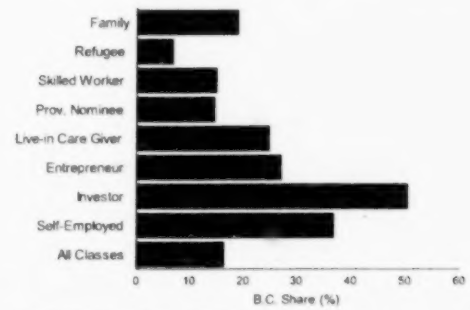
Total immigrant arrivals to Canada were also higher in the first quarter. Statistics Canada reported that a total of 53,138 immigrants arrived in Canada during the first quarter of 2008. Over the same period in 2007 Canada welcomed 47,876 new arrivals.

British Columbia held its position during the first quarter as one of the top three immigrant destinations. According to Statistics Canada, B.C. received the second highest level of immigrants after Ontario with 23,497 immigrants. Quebec was third with 9,603 immigrants.

Skilled Workers accounted for the largest share of total landings in the most recent quarter...

According to data available from Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), Skilled Workers accounted for the largest number of arrivals in the first quarter of 2008, closely followed by immigrants processed under the Family Class. During this quarter, 3,806 new Skilled Worker Class immigrants landed in the province. B.C. also received 2,572 Family Class immigrants and 1,600 Business Class immigrants over the same period.

B.C. Share of Immigrants to Canada By Class
2007



Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Asian countries remain the leading source of B.C. Landed Immigrants...

CIC data for B.C. also shows that the top ten countries accounted for about three quarters of total landed immigrants in the first quarter of 2008. China remained the leading source country, followed by India, South Korea, the Philippines and U.S.A. These five countries accounted for 57.6 per cent of all immigrant arrivals during the first quarter. England, Taiwan, Iran, Japan and Singapore were the other top source countries during the first quarter and accounted for a further 17.0 per cent of total landed immigrants.

The Greater Vancouver area continued to be the top intended destination for B.C. Landed Immigrants ...

Almost 86 per cent of total landed immigrants to B.C. who arrived in the first quarter of 2008 stated the Vancouver area as their intended destination. More than 90 per cent of all landed immigrants from Asia chose to settle in the Vancouver area. A relatively higher proportion of immigrants arriving from Europe, Africa and North/Central America settled outside the Greater Vancouver area.

Previously Released Feature Articles

May 2008	*2006 Census Fast Facts – Mother Tongue and Home Language*
Feb 2008	*2006 Census Fast Facts - Immigrant Population of British Columbia*
Sep 2007	*Labour Market Characteristics of the Immigrant Population in B.C.*
June 2007	*British Columbia's Non-Permanent Resident Population*
Mar 2007	*B.C. Immigrant Landings and Inter-Censal Population Change*
Dec 2006	*A Summary of the Federal Immigration Plan for 2006*
June 2006	*Age, Family and Marital Characteristics of BC Immigrants*
Mar 2006	*Family Immigrants to British Columbia*
Dec 2005	*Skilled Worker Immigrants to British Columbia*
Oct 2005	*Education Level of Recent Immigrants*
June 2005	*Immigrants to B.C. Under the Provincial Nominee Program*
Mar 2005	*European Immigrants to B.C.*
Dec 2004	*A Summary of the Federal Immigration Plan for 2005*
Sep 2004	*2001 Residence of Recent Immigrants*
June 2004	*Business Immigrants to British Columbia*
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Dec 2003	*Twenty Years of Female Immigrants to B.C.*
Sep 2003	*Non-Permanent Residents & Citizenship*
Jun 2003	*Earnings of Recent Canadian Immigrants (Part 2)*
Mar 2003	*Earnings of Recent Canadian Immigrants*
Jan 2003	*Mother Tongue and Home Language*
Sep 2002	*English Language Ability of Recent Immigrants*

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2006 Census Fast Facts

Ethnicity and Visible Minority Characteristics of BC's Population

Ethnic origin, as defined in the Census, refers to the ethnic or cultural group(s) to which an individual's ancestors belonged. Visible minority, on the other hand, refers to whether or not a person, under criteria established by the Employment Equity Act, is non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour. Under the Act, an Aboriginal person is not considered to be a visible minority.

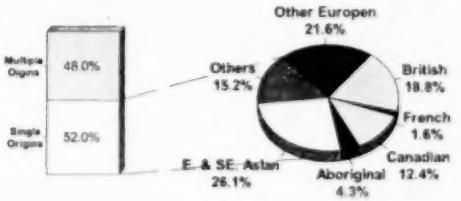
The 2006 Census reported that for every 100 people living in B.C. at the time of the census, about 52 belonged to a single ethnic origin and 48 belonged to more than one ethnic origin (multiple origins). Taking both single and multiple responses together, people with an English ethnic origin represented the largest population in B.C. On the other hand, Chinese represented the largest ethnic group in the B.C. population who reported a single ethnicity. In 2006, of those who reported a single ethnic origin, 17.7 per cent were Chinese, 12.4 per cent Canadian, and 11.4 per cent English. Also, 4.3 per cent reported Aboriginal as their ethnic origin.

Top 10 Reported Single Ethnic Origins for B.C. -2006

	Number Reported	% of Total Population	% of Single Origin
Chinese	377,550	9.2%	17.7
Canadian	264,515	6.4%	12.4
English	242,610	5.9%	11.4
East Indian	202,465	4.9%	9.5
German	114,130	2.8%	5.4
Scottish	87,025	2.1%	4.1
Filipino	65,250	1.6%	3.1
Irish	46,105	1.1%	2.2
Italian	45,680	1.1%	2.1
Ukrainian	37,450	0.9%	1.8

The high inflow of Asian immigrants to B.C. during the past two decades had helped shift the ethnic mosaic of the province. Large numbers of immigrant landings from Asian countries including China, India, the Philippines, South Korea and Taiwan have gradually made the Asian ethnic group a larger share of the population in B.C. The proportion of the B.C. population who reported a single East Asian or South East Asian ethnic origin had increased from 9.0 per cent in 1986 to 18.7 per cent in 1996 then to 26.1 per cent in 2006.

B.C. Population Ethnic Origin - 2006 Census

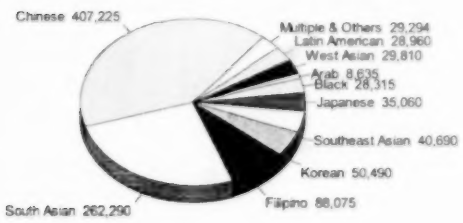


More people have been reporting Canadian as their ethnicity since 1996 when Statistics Canada modified the questions in the census form. Also, British Columbians having non-Canadian ancestors might have reported their own ethnicity as Canadian after having immigrated to Canada for a period of time or if they were born in Canada. The number of British Columbians who reported themselves as ethnic Canadians varies significantly with their generation status. Based on Statistics Canada's

definition, first generation includes persons who are foreign born ; second generation are those who were born in Canada with at least one parent born outside Canada; whereas third generation are Canadian born with both parents who are also Canadian born. In 2006, 0.4 per cent of those who reported a single Canadian ethnic origin were first generation, verses 5.5 per cent in the second generation and 32.1 per cent in the third generation.

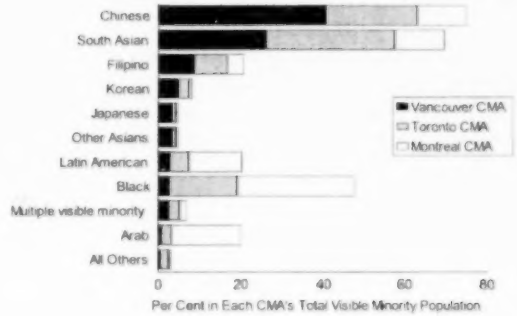
More and more British Columbians who reported themselves as ethnic Canadians may be a member of a visible minority group as a result of the recent high inflow of non-white immigrants to B.C. and Canada. In 2006, about one in every four British Columbians (24.8%) was a visible minority, representing about one million people in the province. Chinese was the single largest visible minority group, accounting for 40.0 per cent of all visible minorities in the province, followed by East Asians. A high proportion of the visible minority population were of ethnic Asian origin.

Visible Minority Population in B.C.
2006 Census



Approximately two-thirds of those in a visible minority group were born outside Canada, and a majority (60%) immigrated to the country within the last 15 years. At the time of the 2006 census, there were about 676,000 immigrants and 297,000 non-immigrants in B.C. who belonged to a visible minority group.
The visible minority population was more concentrated in the Lower Mainland. About four in every ten people who lived in the Vancouver Census Metropolitan Area (Vancouver CMA) were visible minorities. Vancouver CMA topped the other two largest CMAs (Toronto and Montreal) by having a relatively higher proportion of Chinese in its visible minority population. In 2006, 43.6 per cent of the visible minorities living in the Vancouver CMA were Chinese, compared to 22.4 per cent for the Toronto CMA and 12.2 per cent for the Montreal CMA.

Relative Distribution of Visible Minority by Origin
2006 Census



Another growing trend in the visible minority population in Canada is that the number of mixed unions (marriages) involving visible minorities has been increasing. Over the last two decades, the number of unions between one visible minority and one non-visible minority persons has increased from 2.2 per cent (of all mixed unions) in 1996 to 3.3 per cent in 2006, whereas the same statistics for unions between two different visible minority groups has climbed from 0.3 per cent to 0.6 per cent.

"Census Fast Facts" is a series of feature articles published by BC Stats that focus on different aspects of British Columbia's demography based on the 2006 Census. Please visit: www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/cen06/facts/facts.asp

B.C. Immigration by Area of Last Permanent Residence
January to March, 2008
Total Landings: 10,036 Persons

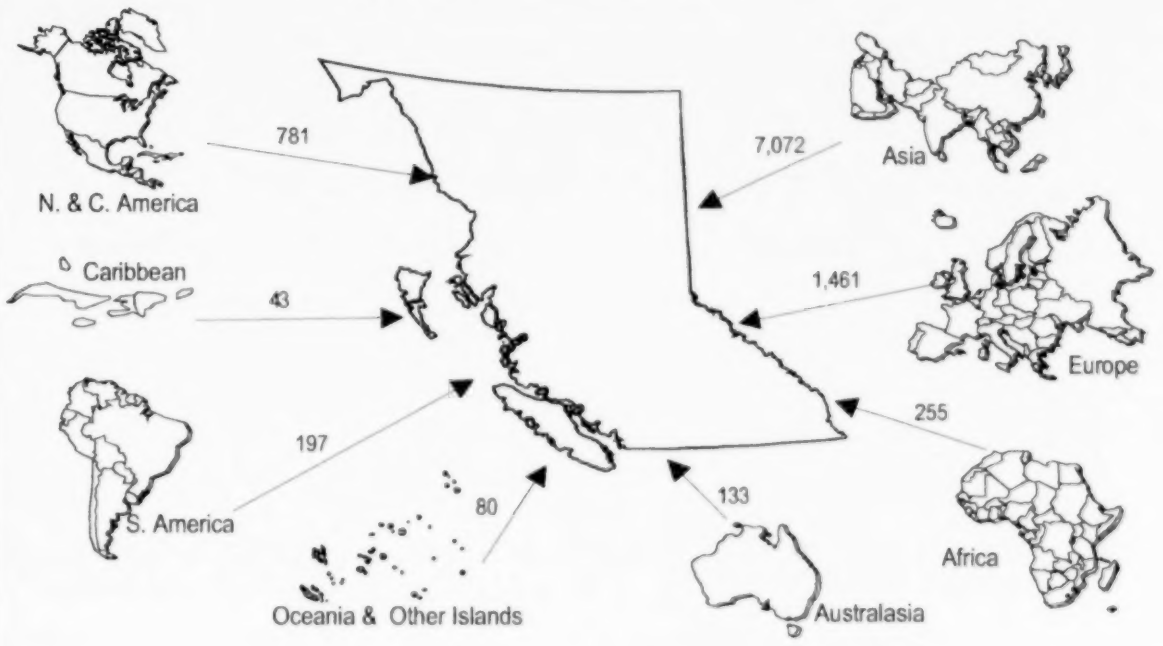


Table 1: Immigrant Landings to B.C. and Canada - January to March, 2008

SOURCE	Vancouver Area	Rest of B.C. *	Total B.C.
Europe	1,054	403	1,461
Africa	196	59	255
Asia	6,449	619	7,072
China-Mainland	2,349	134	2,483
India	820	135	957
Taiwan	467	26	493
Hong Kong	116	8	124
Australasia	89	44	133
N & C America	539	241	781
U.S.A.	437	211	648
Caribbean	32	11	43
South America	161	36	197
Oceania	76	4	80
Not Stated	13	19	23
All Areas	**8,609**	**1,436**	**10,045**

** "Rest of B.C." also includes immigrants with unknown destination. Many might have been destined for Vancouver Area.*

-- indicates data suppression for confidentiality OR no value

Prepared By: *BC Stats*
Date: *July, 2008*

Data Provided By:
Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Table 2: Immigrant Landings by Class

- British Columbia -

Year / Quarter	Family	Refugee	Economic Classes						Other Classes	Grand Total
			Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed		
1992	15,148	2,995	7,280	0	0	3,971	4,531	480	2,605	37,010
1993	18,457	1,492	10,446	0	192	4,073	6,867	677	3,735	45,939
1994	17,516	1,544	14,149	0	869	4,183	6,291	744	3,819	49,115
1995	15,308	1,875	18,439	0	1,176	3,508	3,036	956	278	44,576
1996	14,288	2,274	24,180	0	1,160	4,235	3,447	1,564	877	52,025
1997	12,918	1,996	24,730	0	874	3,337	2,257	1,250	482	47,844
1998	11,083	2,041	17,000	0	1,275	1,918	1,608	746	306	35,977
1999	10,989	1,896	17,738	11	1,338	1,865	1,519	659	111	36,126
2000	10,974	2,574	18,933	13	1,070	1,775	1,388	632	68	37,427
2001	11,824	2,199	19,768	24	880	1,620	1,694	444	27	38,480
2002	11,405	2,105	15,609	209	504	1,192	1,951	526	554	34,055
2003	11,572	1,827	16,235	441	758	914	1,760	338	1,386	35,231
2004	10,869	2,367	17,091	598	1,083	696	3,221	246	856	37,027
2005	11,723	2,159	21,811	789	1,080	871	5,359	289	689	44,770
2006	13,460	1,891	16,688	1,924	1,528	871	4,407	322	993	42,084
2007	12,611	1,883	14,781	2,519	1,519	586	3,759	212	1,071	38,941
1Q2007	2,807	249	2,791	550	258	138	911	52	216	7,972
1Q2008	2,572	264	3,806	1,013	479	104	1,456	40	311	10,058*

- Canada -

Year / Quarter	Family	Refugee	Economic Classes						Other Classes	Grand Total
			Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed		
1992	101,123	52,348	67,415	0	0	15,873	9,694	2,821	5,544	254,818
1993	112,667	30,623	69,923	0	3,013	16,711	12,625	3,390	7,751	256,703
1994	94,194	20,436	69,908	0	4,980	14,200	10,480	2,745	7,454	224,397
1995	77,386	28,093	81,732	0	5,457	11,429	5,160	2,854	761	212,872
1996	68,359	28,478	97,917	233	4,759	11,911	6,175	4,376	3,865	226,073
1997	59,979	24,308	105,648	47	2,730	10,404	5,595	3,927	3,400	216,038
1998	50,896	22,843	81,266	0	2,868	6,611	4,541	2,625	2,547	174,197
1999	55,277	24,396	92,495	477	3,261	6,154	4,265	2,599	1,031	189,955
2000	60,614	30,092	118,593	1,252	2,782	6,187	4,951	2,527	460	227,458
2001	66,794	27,919	137,234	1,274	2,625	6,091	6,339	2,156	206	250,638
2002	62,287	25,116	122,731	2,127	1,985	4,478	4,636	1,907	3,782	229,049
2003	65,112	25,984	105,224	4,418	3,304	2,978	3,695	1,427	9,207	221,349
2004	62,260	32,687	113,449	6,248	4,292	2,470	6,099	1,190	7,128	235,823
2005	63,360	35,776	130,240	8,047	4,552	2,850	9,611	1,014	6,790	262,240
2006	70,507	32,503	105,946	13,336	6,895	3,098	8,026	952	10,380	251,643
2007	66,230	27,956	97,858	17,095	6,117	2,160	7,443	576	11,323	236,758
1Q2007	14,140	5,635	17,991	3,599	1,261	537	1,577	161	2,975	47,876
1Q2008										53,138*

British Columbia as a Percent of Canada

Year / Quarter	Family	Refugee	Economic Classes						Other Classes	Grand Total
			Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed		
1992	15.0%	5.7%	10.8%	-	-	25.0%	46.7%	17.0%	47.0%	14.5%
1993	16.4%	4.9%	14.9%	-	6.4%	24.4%	54.4%	20.0%	48.2%	17.9%
1994	18.6%	7.6%	20.2%	-	17.4%	29.5%	60.0%	27.1%	51.2%	21.9%
1995	19.8%	6.7%	22.6%	-	21.6%	30.7%	58.8%	33.5%	36.5%	20.9%
1996	20.9%	8.0%	24.7%	-	24.4%	35.6%	55.8%	35.7%	22.7%	23.0%
1997	21.5%	8.2%	23.4%	-	32.0%	32.1%	40.3%	31.8%	14.2%	22.1%
1998	21.8%	8.9%	20.9%	-	44.5%	29.0%	35.4%	28.4%	12.0%	20.7%
1999	19.9%	7.8%	19.2%	2.3%	41.0%	30.3%	35.6%	25.4%	10.8%	19.0%
2000	18.1%	8.6%	16.0%	1.0%	38.5%	28.7%	28.0%	25.0%	14.8%	16.5%
2001	17.7%	7.9%	14.4%	1.9%	33.5%	26.6%	26.7%	20.6%	13.1%	15.4%
2002	18.3%	8.4%	12.7%	9.8%	25.4%	26.6%	42.1%	27.6%	14.6%	14.9%
2003	17.8%	7.0%	15.4%	10.0%	22.9%	30.7%	47.6%	23.7%	15.1%	15.9%
2004	17.5%	7.2%	15.1%	9.6%	25.2%	28.2%	52.8%	20.7%	12.0%	15.7%
2005	18.5%	6.0%	16.7%	9.8%	23.7%	30.6%	55.8%	28.5%	10.1%	17.1%
2006	19.1%	5.8%	15.8%	14.4%	22.2%	28.1%	54.9%	33.8%	9.6%	16.7%
2007	19.0%	6.7%	15.1%	14.7%	24.8%	27.1%	50.5%	36.8%	9.5%	16.4%
1Q2007	19.9%	4.4%	15.5%	15.3%	20.5%	25.7%	57.8%	32.3%	7.3%	16.7%
1Q2008										18.9%*

Important Note: Due to the changes in the classifications of immigrants, some numbers reported in this release are not compatible with those in previous releases.

Prepared By: *BC Stats*
Date: *July, 2008*

Data Provided By:
Citizenship and Immigration Canada
** Statistics Canada Data*

Immigration by Destination by Class - 2007

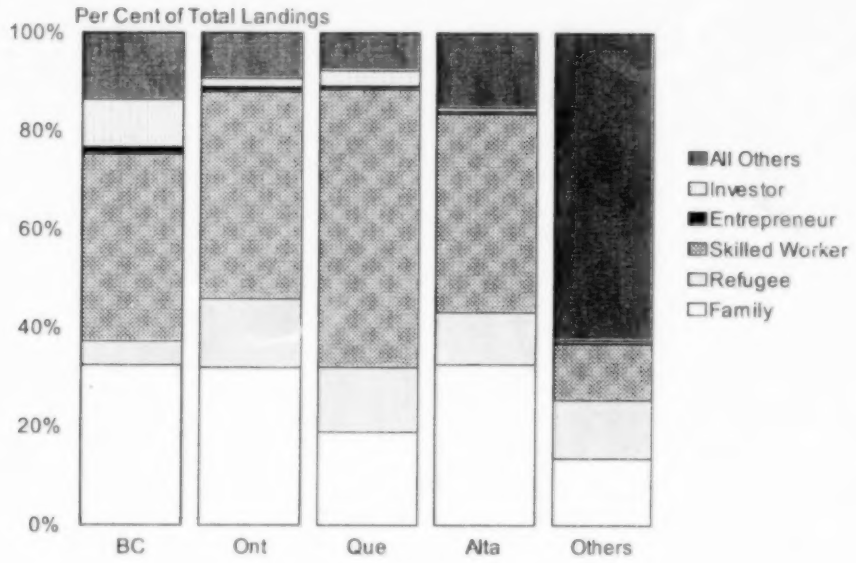


Table 3: Immigrant Landings by Province by Class

Year / Quarter	Family	Refugee	Economic Classes						Other Classes	Grand Total
			Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed		
2007										
NFLD	109	173	173	67	-	-	-	-	22	**545**
P.E.I.	51	83	37	816	-	-	-	-	-	**992**
N.S.	437	180	752	896	8	19	105	6	117	**2,520**
N.B.	256	174	223	921	22	-	-	-	42	**1,643**
Que	8,524	5,934	25,550	9	620	291	1,446	117	2,717	**45,208**
Ont	35,532	15,512	46,781	684	2,923	1,142	1,955	202	6,581	**111,312**
Man	1,319	1,170	558	7,689	61	-	7	13	137	**10,955**
Sask	514	617	461	1,839	26	6	13	-	39	**3,517**
Alta	6,791	2,216	8,412	1,651	917	115	153	23	579	**20,857**
B.C.	12,611	1,883	14,781	2,519	1,519	586	3,759	212	1,071	**38,941**
Territories	79	9	52	-	19	-	-	-	11	**174**
Not Stated	7	-	78	-	-	-	-	-	-	**94**
Canada	**66,230**	**27,956**	**97,858**	**17,095**	**6,117**	**2,160**	**7,443**	**576**	**11,323**	**236,758**
2008 First Quarter										
B.C.	2,572	264	3,806	1,013	479	104	1,456	40	311	**10,045**

Data Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada

2008 First Quarter

NFLD	**136**
P.E.I.	**334**
N.S.	**601**
N.B.	**463**
Que	**9,603**
Ont	**23,497**
Man	**2,065**
Sask	**979**
Alta	**5,346**
B.C.	**10,058**
Territories	**56**
Canada	**53,138**

Data Source: Statistics Canada

Totals in the tables may differ due to different data sources updated at slightly different time.
- indicates data supression for confidentiality OR no value

Prepared By: *BC Stats*
Date: *July, 2008*

B.C. Immigration by Top 10 Source by Class
January to March, 2008

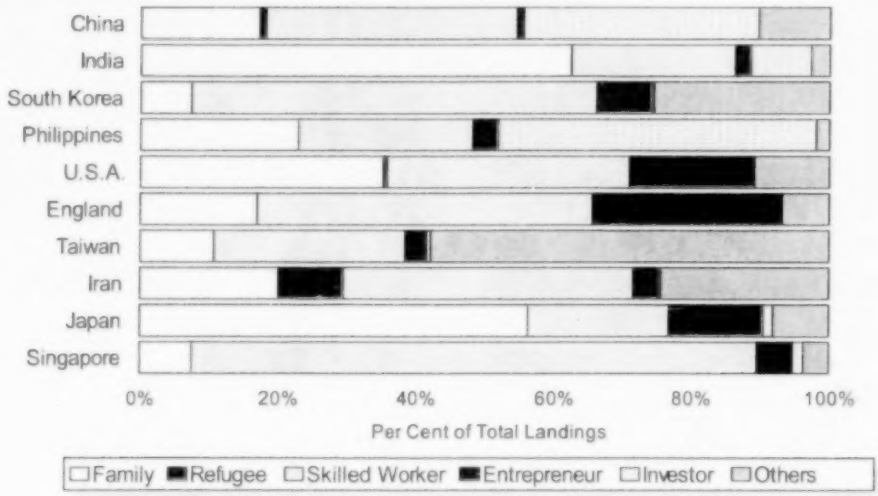


Table 4: B.C. Immigrant Landings by Source By Class, January - March, 2008

			Economic Classes							
	Family	Refugee	Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed	Other Classes	Grand Total
World Area										
Europe	341	13	663	335	9	17	19	12	52	**1,461**
Africa	56	58	64	43	-	-	7	-	21	**255**
Asia	1,725	139	2,644	452	461	72	1,423	24	132	**7,072**
Australasia	58	-	32	29	-	-	-	-	10	**133**
N&C America	289	19	257	124	-	-	7	-	78	**781**
Caribbean	23	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	**43**
S. America	41	22	92	23	-	-	-	-	12	**197**
Oceania & Isl.	28	7	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	**80**
Stateless	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**23**
Top 20 Source Countries										
China	425	22	902	218	-	25	850	6	31	**2,483**
India	596	-	228	22	84	-	-	-	16	**957**
South Korea	68	-	545	76	-	22	191	-	20	**930**
Philippines	175	-	193	29	355	-	-	-	13	**767**
U.S.A.	227	-	228	118	-	-	7	-	59	**648**
England	105	-	301	171	-	10	14	7	12	**620**
Taiwan	53	-	136	16	-	2	276	-	-	**493**
Iran	63	30	132	12	-	14	52	-	8	**315**
Japan	82	-	30	20	-	-	-	-	12	**146**
Singapore	10	-	109	7	-	-	-	-	-	**133**
Germany	29	-	29	59	-	-	-	-	11	**131**
Hong Kong	40	-	45	-	-	-	28	-	-	**124**
Pakistan	59	-	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	**123**
Romania	32	-	64	-	-	-	-	-	-	**102**
Australia	47	-	20	25	-	-	-	-	-	**101**
Mexico	47	6	24	-	-	-	-	-	9	**93**
South Africa	16	-	20	31	-	-	7	-	-	**82**
United Arab Emirates	-	-	58	6	-	-	-	-	-	**71**
Russia	24	-	28	7	-	-	-	-	6	**68**
Saudi Arabia	6	-	45	-	-	-	12	-	-	**66**
Others	468	190	620	177	21	11	9	-	91	**1,592**
Total	**2,572**	**264**	**3,806**	**1,013**	**479**	**104**	**1,456**	**40**	**311**	**10,045**

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Date: *July, 2008*

Data Provided By:
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GLOSSARY

Business Immigrants-Immigrants in the Entrepreneur, Investor, or Self-employed Class.

Economic Immigrants-Immigrants admitted under the Skilled Worker Class, Live-In Caregiver Program, and in the business classes.

Entrepreneur Class-Includes those persons (and dependents) who intend to establish or purchase a substantial interest in a business in Canada creating or maintaining employment for more than one Canadian citizen.

Family Class-Includes spouses, fiancés, dependent children, and parents or grandparents sponsored by a Canadian citizen.

Investor Class-Includes those persons (and dependents) with a proven track record and substantial net worth who are willing to make a large investment for at least three years in specified activities that will contribute to the creation or continuation of employment opportunities in Canada.

Landed Immigrants-Immigrants who are granted permanent resident status in Canada, and who have actually entered Canada.

Other Classes-Include immigrants in the Retired Class (no longer exist), Deferred Removal Order Class, permit holders applying for permanent residence in Canada, and persons admitted under humanitarian/compassionate grounds, as well as persons admitted under certain public policy related to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.

Provincial/Territorial Nominees-persons who are selected and nominated by the provincial or territorial governments as immigrants. They are mainly skilled workers admitted to fill critical labour shortage in the province/territories.

Refugees-persons who meet the definition specified by the United Nation Refugee Convention. These include both government and privately sponsored refugees, Asylum refugees, and dependants abroad of refugees

Self Employed Class-Includes those persons (and dependents) who intend to establish a business in Canada that will employ him/herself, and will make a significant contribution to the economy.

For further information on the specific class of immigrants described here, please visit the Citizenship and Immigration Canada website at www.cic.gc.ca